

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 01390 281432Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 SSO-00 H-01 NSCE-00  
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00  
PRS-01 TRSE-00 NEAE-00 /049 W  
-----111660 281439Z /47

O 281330Z JUN 77

FM AVEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 4860  
INFO CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE  
COMIDEASTFOR IMMEDIATE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
JCS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
CNO WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 1390

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS : MORG, PFOR, BA  
SUBJECT : MIDEASTFORCE AGREEMENTS SIGNED

REF : STATE 149836

1. FOREIGN MINISTER AND I EXCHANGED NOTES A AND B JUNE 28;  
REAR ADMIRAL CROWE AND GOB LEGAL ADVISOR WERE ONLY OTHER  
PERSONS PRESENT. ORIGINALS OF GOB NOTES AND CERTIFIED  
COPIES EMBASSY NOTES WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPT.

2. PRIOR TO MEETING FOR EXCHANGE OF NOTES I INFORMED BOTH  
FOREIGN MINISTER AND LEGAL ADVISOR OF PROBLEM CONCERNING  
LETTER AMENDING LEASE. I STRESSED THAT WE SAW NO PROBLEM  
IN SECURING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL AND THAT, INDEED, THIS  
DELAY REFLECTED SITUATION WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER HAD DESIRED:  
THAT NEW ARRANGEMENTS ATTRACT AS LITTLE ATTENTION AS POSSIBLE --  
IN THIS CASE TOO LITTLE.

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3. LEGAL ADVISOR INFORMED ME THAT DELAY IN EXCHANGING  
LETTERS AMENDING LEASE WAS FINE WITH HIM BECAUSE MINISTER  
OF WORKS, ELECTRICITY, AND WATER HAD NOT COMPLETED HIS  
REPLY TO LETTER FROM CO OF ADMIN SUPPORT UNIT. (THIS FAILURE  
PERHAPS DUE TO FACT THAT MINISTER'S OFFICE MANAGER,  
MANAGER'S FAMILY AND HIS SECRETARY ALL WERE KILLED IN  
AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT JUNE 27.) I LEFT UNDATED, INITIALED

LETTER TO MINISTER FROM CO, WITH ANNEXES, WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AND ASKED HIM FOR SHORT NOTE EITHER FROM HIM OR MINISTER OF WORKS ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT OF CO'S UNDATED LETTER, ACCEPTING ITS CONTENTS, AND LOOKING FORWARD TO SIGNATURE WHEN OTHER REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN MET. I SAID CO WOULD BE PREPARED TO DELIVER CHECK AT TIME LETTERS EXCHANGED WITH MINISTER OF WORKS. FONMIN AGREED AND LEGAL ADVISOR TOLD ME HE WOULD SEE THAT SOME REPLY TO INITIALED LETTER WOULD REACH ME JUNE 29 OR 30. REAR ADMIRAL CROWE ALSO LEFT WITH FONMIN LETTER RETURNING TO GOB LARGE ANTENNA FIELD ADJACENT TO SHORE INSTALLATION WHICH NAVY NO LONGER NEEDS OR USES.

4. I ASKED FOREIGN MINISTER IF HE STILL INTENDED TO RELEASE STATEMENT DAY AFTER EXCHANGE OF NOTES. HE SAID REUTERS STRINGER HAD "BEEN AFTER" HUM AND HE FELT HE WOULD RELEASE IT JUNE 28. HE ALSO SAID HE "MIGHT" GIVE AN INTERVIEW. I SAID EMBASSY WOULD HAND OUT AGREED STATEMENT IF ASKED AND THAT USG WOULD USE GUIDANCE SUPPLIED STATE 125375, PREVIOUSLY GIVEN TO FONMIN, HERE AND IN WASHINGTON ON AN "IF ASKED" BASIS.

5. EXCHANGE OF NOTES WAS CORDIAL AND FOREIGN MINISTER SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT BAHRAIN COULD RETAIN SOME OF ITS NAVY CONNECTION WHILE AT SAME TIME ADJUSTING NAVY PRESENCE HERE TO MEET DOMESTIC POLITICAL NEEDS AND CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES  
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IN THE REGION. HE SAID HE FELT USG WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN GULF SECURITY, EVEN AFTER TIME WHEN GULF STATES THEMSELVES CAN REACH AGREEMENT ON REGIONAL SECURITY, AND THAT, "WHO KNOWS", TIME MAY COME WHEN US PRESENCE MIGHT AGAIN BE EXPANDED. FOREIGN MINISTER VERY RARELY GIVES OR ATTENDS ANY BUT MOST ESSENTIAL SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AND HIS JUNE 28 INVITATION TO ME, REAR ADMIRAL CROWE, AND REAR ADMIRAL PACKER TO DINE BEFORE REAR ADMIRAL CROWE'S JULY 7 DEPARTURE SEEMED TO BE GESTURE DESIGNED TO UNDERLINE HIS VIEW OF HIMSELF AS A FRIEND, NOT AN OPPONENT OF U.S. NAVY.

6. SINCE AREA MEDIA LIKELY PICK UP AND CIRCULATE NEWS OF SIGNING LATE JUNE 28 LOCAL TIME, I HAVE TAKEN LIBERTY OF INFORMING AREA POSTS BY SEPTEL, FOR THEIR INFORMATION ONLY, INFO TO DEPT., THAT NEW ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED AS ENVISAGED STATE 141742. DEPT MAY WISH INSTRUCT SOME AREA POSTS TO BRIEF GOVERNMENTS ON NEW ARRANGEMENTS.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TROOP DEPLOYMENT, NAVAL FORCES, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS, LEASES  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**TAGS:** MORG, PFOR, MARR, US, BA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009